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# The Times

MINDEN ONTARIO

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## Warming up on the trails

A group of eager hikers prepare to embark on a hike through Bethel Heights Farm, led by Katie Cox. The tour included details about a historic homestead, as well as an opportunity to spend some time with friendly farm animals. Hike Haliburton Winter Edition offered 10 hikes around the county, with all of them nearly at capacity over the chilly weekend. For more photos, see page 4. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

# Minden Hills delivers preliminary draft of budget

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Here's the caveat before the shock: The tax increase to Minden Hills ratepayers isn't

finalized.

Now here's the shock: The first draft of the 2023 municipal budget proposes a 7.54 per cent increase to taxpayers over last year's bill. It was repeatedly stipulated when the

township council met Feb. 2 that the presentation was the opening conversation toward setting this year's budget.

"The 2023 capital budget includes investments to improve roads, public safety, regu-

latory compliance, and accessibility," Trisha McKibbin, the town's CAO, wrote in a report to council.

"Further, the 2023 capital budget includes

see MH TOWNSHIP page 2

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# Natural shorelines best for lake health

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

More research into lake health is done in Muskoka than in Haliburton County.

Paul MacInnes, chairperson of the Coalition of Property Owners Associations, said during Algonquin Highlands town council meeting Feb. 2 that there are many reasons for the research disparity between regions.

He said scientists don't like working with four different septic inspection programs. Haliburton County is comprised of four lower-tier municipalities, each with its own inspection program.

But neither septic inspection program has Level 4 requirements, MacInnes said.

The coalition recommends each county township pursue a Level 4 inspection.

"Even Level 3 (inspections) miss 20 per cent of the problems," he said. "There are 43 specific defects that are not detected by a Level 3 inspection."

Level 1 inspections miss as much as 90 per cent of the problems.

Rainfall in Haliburton County contains four to 10 times more phosphorous than the lake water, he said. That's the leading pollutant to local lakes. Natural shorelines help minimize runoff making it into lakes.

"Every bit of runoff that we can keep out of our lakes is key," MacInnes said.

Just 10 per cent of runoff makes it into a lake with a natural shoreline versus 35 per cent getting into a body of water that has a disturbed shoreline.

The coalition is comprised of 50 lake associations on more than 100 lakes and represents as many as 17,000 properties with the goal to protect and enhance Haliburton Highlands' bodies of water.

MacInnes said the group is very strict on infusing integrity into everything they do.

"If we put out a tip sheet on septic tips, it is peer reviewed at least twice by reputable peer reviewers like Trent University, etc.," he said.

They also believe in educating themselves about an issue before they issue a decree, course of action, or opinion.

The coalition generally takes on only a single priority at a time and that priority is beneficial for all member associations.

"And we are totally Haliburton County-focused," MacInnes said.

Most associations have a lake steward who is most responsible for protecting the lake and most active in monitoring its health. One of the first things the coalition did after its inception was to gather all the stewards together.

"We realized as we talked to those lake stewards that there was a wide variety of skills and knowledge," he said. "Many of them were scientists with a lot of knowledge. Many of them were just volunteers who cared, but they needed more help, more scientific knowledge."

So the coalition set about to develop tools and educational opportunities for property owners, he said. They started a decision makers information series for municipalities that covered such topics as septic systems, shoreline health importance, and the health of fish and wetlands.

Scientists were polled in the early days as to how it can be known there is a problem with a lake's health. Quite simply, he said, the answer was that you're already too late by the time a problem is known, he said.

"If you don't start acting now (to ensure lake health), you will have big problems in the future," MacInnes said.

With that in mind, coalition priorities became healthy septic system at lakefront properties and protecting natural shorelines.

"Those are the two things that'll have the biggest impact on the health of your lakes," he said. "Testing is important, but what's most important is taking action now to ... prevent the problems."

“

If you don't start acting now (to ensure lake health), you will have big problems in the future,

— PAUL MACINNES

”

The coalition began the Love Your Lake program to promote the importance of natural shorelines in the county. It was in partnership with Trent University, Watersheds Canada, and the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

The program touched upon 1,072 kilometres of shoreline on 60 lakes, MacInnes said. It was discovered that, on average, less than half of the shoreline was natural. And less than 10 per cent of lakes met the 75 per cent natural shoreline criteria for lake health.

"We're headed for problems," he said. "May not happen this year, next year, but you're headed for problems."

## MH township adopts new budget approach

from page 1

investments in studies designed to give direction to council and township staff – a strategic plan and an asset management plan."

The Township of Minden Hills is a little later than some lower tier municipalities in Haliburton County. That's because top Department of Finance staff are new to their positions.

Another reason for the tardiness is that the town has adopted a new approach to the budget process.

"This is light years ahead of what we used to do," said Greg Bedard, the township's finance director. "And, as it's refined, it'll make things much more transparent and understandable for everybody."

Because the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the 2020 assessment, he said properties have been valued by the province using its 2016 assessment.

"Market value today is extremely different from assessed value or what a property would have transacted for ... seven years ago," he said.

In the first draft of the budget, Bedard said owners of single-family dwelling assessed at \$209,000 will see an increase of \$63.11 over last year, or \$900.50 on their bills. Owners of seasonal recreational dwellings valued at \$316,000 will see an increase of \$95.42 over 2022. That's a tax bill of \$1,361.52 this year.

But those aren't final numbers, he said.

"We will go through this in a number of iterations," Bedard

said. "The most important thing, I believe, is that we do this right."

It's a process that won't be rushed. Schedules can be adjusted for the sake of coming to the best budget for residents, he said.

"A budget isn't just numbers," he said. "A budget is both quantitative numbers but qualitative, the words, the explanations. In order for a budget to be effective, it needs both."

The 2023 first draft presents a tax levy just north of \$10.5 million. This represents an increase to the purse of \$830,000 or 8.53 per cent over last year.

As much as 78 per cent of the departmental capital expenditures outlined in the preliminary budget are by Public Works. That's infrastructure projects.

"For whatever reason and however we got here, the fact is that infrastructure is a major part of our budget and our expenditures," said Mayor Bob Carter. "We have probably underspent on infrastructure over the past number of years."

"At some point, that comes back, I guess the best word, is to haunt you. We really have to emphasize and focus on infrastructure."

Bedard said it's important to note that the township budget is only 50 per cent of property taxes payable from individuals. The remainder is split between taxation for set by Haliburton County and the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

"While this budget proposes a 7.5 per cent tax increase for 2023, the overall impact to property taxpayers is unknown at this time since the county hasn't finalized their budget," Bedard said.

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# Withdrawal of amendments only a temporary relief to gun owners

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

The federal Liberal government withdrew two amendments to Bill C-21, which would have banned thousands of firearms, on Friday, Feb. 3.

Among those to be banned were rifles used by some hunters. So the withdrawal may have offered some temporary relief to hunters and sport shooters, but many are still apprehensive about the future.

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre said the decision came after he and his team had pressured Justin Trudeau's government to temporarily back down from their proposed amendments.

Leader of the Government in the House of Commons Mark Holland said in a statement Friday, "More work had to be done to hear from Indigenous communities and Canadians across the board. It is absolutely critical that this bill get adopted and that they take handguns off our streets and assault-style weapons, and there are a couple of items that we still need to have conversations about that were contained in the amendments."

The two amendments were unexpectedly announced in November of 2022 and faced strong opposition from hunters, shooters, the Assembly of First Nations, New Democrats and western provinces.

Canada's Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino said they will attempt to reintroduce the prohibitions in either more amendments to C-21 or a new law, meaning gun owners may not be in the clear for long.

Among millions in the country are plenty of local hunters and shooters including Keith Cunningham, retired Canadian Forces military captain, and Linda Miller, both owners

of MilCun Training Centre in Minden.

The Bill was created to be a "comprehensive strategy to address gun violence," states the Canadian government, but the avid sport shooters said it has not made an impact on street crime.

"Banning hunting rifles that have been used for a hundred years does not contribute to the safety of Canadians," Cunningham and Miller said in an email to the Echo. "Yes, of course we can use another firearm that's not on the banned list, but why would we need to? There are nearly three million law abiding gun owners in Canada. If we were the problem, it'd be obvious."

Bill C-21 proposes a number of amendments to the Firearms Act in the Canadian Criminal Code and originally focused on handguns before the introduction of the amendments to prohibit certain rifles.

"We have the same comments for all the other firearms in C-21 and the 2020 Order in Council (OIC) firearm bans as we do for withdrawing of these two amendments: this hasn't diminished crime in the big cities," Cunningham and Miller said.

They said those who will be impacted most if new restrictions go forward in the future, are hunters and other law-abiding gun owners. It has strained Cunningham and Miller's business along with those who attend their courses or have similar operations.

"We run marksmanship courses for both law-abiding gun owners and police/military. We are a centre of excellence for developing marksmanship skills. The OICs and the legislation are strangling our business. Not only are there fewer courses we're able to offer to competitors, we are also at risk of being able to maintain a centre of excellence for police and military," Cunningham and Miller said.



## Full STEAM ahead

Nash Wilson participates in the Haliburton County Public Library's Mini Makers after school program on Thursday, Feb. 2 at the Dysart Library. The program teaches STEAM; science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics through tech toys that develop skills like creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking. Mini Makers is offered from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Dysart Library on the first and third Thursday of each month and at the Minden Hills library on the first Tuesday each month. HCPL also offers their After School Crafts program from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Wilberforce Library on the second Friday of each month. For HCPL's full schedule of events, visit [www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events](http://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events). /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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## PARKS & RECREATION UP-COMING EVENTS

Join us on February 20th for some Family Day Fun! Parent & Tot: 8am, Jr. Shiny (7-9Y): 9am, Public Skating: 10am, 6 & under Stick 'n Puck: 11am. Each program is 50 minutes, except Stick 'n Puck which is 30 minutes. We also have parent/child floor hockey (4-6Y) 9am, and parent/child basketball (11-14Y): 10am.

March Break is just around the corner. The Township of Minden Hills is running a March Break Camp for kids. Choose single day or full week registration. Different themes each day.

For more information, please call 705-286-1936 ext. 554.

## SHARE THE LOVE, NOT THE WASTE

Valentine's Day is around the corner and instead of purchasing disposal gifts, consider making items from scratch or gifting an experience. Hold the plastic wrapping on flowers and consider giving a houseplant that can last for years.

## WASTE DISPOSAL TIP

If you do indulge in some chocolates and candies, remember that the packaging is not recyclable and should be disposed of in your household garbage.

## NOTICE – 2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will continue its 1st round of the 2023 Budget deliberations during its Regular Council Meeting scheduled for February 9, 2023. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

Greg Bedard, Director of Finance/Treasurer •  
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## SNOW REMOVAL

Pushing snow across roads and streets is not only a safety hazard; it is also against the law. The Ontario Traffic Act states: No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 181.

## CULTURAL CENTRE UP-COMING EVENTS

Valentine's Candle-Making Workshop in partnership with Snuff Candle Co. at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Saturday, February 11 from 1-3 pm. All supplies included. Price is \$45 per person; pre-registration is required.

Visit the Agnes Jamieson Gallery this winter to view a selection of artwork from our permanent collection featuring renowned artist André Lapine. The Gallery is currently open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation.

For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca). The Minden Hills Cultural Centre is located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden.

## WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Furthermore, parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

## 2023 DOG TAGS

2023 Dog Tags are available \$10 each from January 1 to March 31 and \$15 each from April 1 to December 31

## A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ensure all entry/exits in your home are cleared from snow to ensure you can get out in case of a fire. Make sure all windows are not frozen in case you need to use these as an escape mechanism. If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be located.

## (VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Members of the Public will participate electronically, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

February 9 – Regular Council Meeting & 2023 Budget

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at [mindenhills.ca/council/](http://mindenhills.ca/council/) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our website at [mindenhills.ca/council/](http://mindenhills.ca/council/). Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.



Hiking for health,  
happiness, and  
Haliburton

Katie Cox leads a group of hikers through her property, identifying bird sounds, deer tracks, and homestead features along the way. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



Irv Handler and Cara Oleksuk led a Hike Haliburton hike on the Circuit of 5 Viewpoints in Algonquin Highlands. /Submitted by Irv Handler



Lily the goat – one of the friendly faces of Bethel Heights Farm – was happy to welcome visitors from Hike Haliburton to her cozy barn for a tour. Bonus points to the visitors if they brought snacks.



Hike Haliburton guide Heather Reid gives instructions before the group of 15 begins the full moon snowshoe at Abbey Gardens on Saturday, Feb. 4. Abbey Gardens was one of many places offering hikes as part of the winter edition of Hike Haliburton Festival. While the night was cloudy, hikers did catch a glimpse of the snow moon once the trek was over. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Times



Goats, chickens, ducks, and a rabbit were some of the main features of the Hike Haliburton hike held at Bethel Heights Farm on Sunday, Feb. 5.



# Aging Together as Community - a conversation

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

There is only one constant in life, and that is aging. No matter what, it's there, and it always will be. Aging can be a blessing; an opportunity to learn longer, to live longer. Yet the concept of aging is one that is often swept under the rug. "It's become a taboo topic," said David Buwalda, the facilitator for the *Aging Together as Community* conversation held on Jan. 28 at the Fish Hatchery. "The more we talk about it, the more we can celebrate it, and we can make a difference."

Aging Together As Community conversations were formed when two eager organizations combined their ideas; The Haliburton Highlands Long Term Care Coalition, led by Bonnie Roe, and the ReThink Policy Change group, led by David Barnes.

"We clicked right away," said Roe, "and we both knew we wanted to discuss ways where we can respect our elders, and facilitate a cultural change."

The group was not formed as an advocacy group or a political group, rather, it is navigated by the purpose of providing individuals with the opportunity to age respectfully, on their own terms. "There are opportunities to explore aging in their own homes and what that looks like, as well as alternative long term care homes," said Roe.

Dave Buwalda works for ReThink Policy Change, and has dedicated time and energy into facilitating conversations about the worthwhile focus of aging together. He said that the session he facilitated on Jan. 28 was thoughtful, insightful, and inspiring. He noted that the energy in the room was positive and fairly light-hearted, but he worked diligently to create a space that felt safe and comfortable, so that participants could freely discuss a topic that is often taboo. "It can be a stressful topic," he told the *Times*, "but I think it's very important that we break down that wall, and start having these conversations."

The session was split into two major parts: Firstly, an informational presentation by Dr. Barbara Clive on dementia,

followed by a break-out session in which participants could openly discuss the concept of aging, and the gaps they could identify for aging respectfully in places they felt comfortable, seen, and heard.

"We were lucky to have Dr. Barbara Clive," noted Roe, who shared that Clive was the sister of one of the organizing committee members, and a cottaging Haliburton county local. Dr. Clive is a geriatrician, and focuses on older patients who experience dementia, Alzheimers, Parkinsons, as well as individuals who have had falls or identified memory deficits. She provided an in-depth presentation on the background of these diseases, as well as areas where individuals could manage their relationship with these diseases, such as social contact, diet, and exercise.

"One thing we have learned is that dementia care is quite different from standard long term care," said Buwalda, "so by doing the work and bringing these resources, it means we are having these conversations so that we can offer the support where it is needed."

After Dr. Clive wrapped up, the nearly 100 participants in the session were split into groups, and tasked with the question of "what do you want in order to age in Haliburton?" This seed of a question blossomed into a series of conversations, ideas, and further questions. One of the major take-aways was the need for younger people to get involved.

"We had this idea, where every member of the group will bring one young person to the next meetings," chuckled Buwalda. Roe echoed the sentiment. "This conversation has meaning for everyone, and there are ways to change things if you really believe in it," she said.

Both Buwalda and Roe shared that aging is a reality that impacts everyone, and by removing the "taboo" of aging, and normalizing the concept with kids, teenagers, and young adults, it would alleviate the scare factor of growing old, and open up the door to a plethora of healthy conversations that would provide clarity and insight for all those experiencing the natural process of aging.

Roe also noted that they did receive an immense amount of support from local media, as well as representation of

“

There are opportunities to explore aging in their own homes and what that looks like, as well as alternative long term care homes

— BONNIE ROE

”

two members from Minden Council; Coun. Pam Sayne and Coun. Shirley Johannessen. She told the *Times* that this level of involvement is instrumental in enacting tangible policies and actions that will assist community members as they age. "This is a community effort," she said, "we want to show that there are creative alternatives to long term care homes, and yes, it takes creativity and energy, but we have that."

To get involved with these conversations in any capacity, *Aging Together as Community* has a Facebook page, where all are welcome to discuss the topic. "This is a group of interested people," said Buwalda, "we are a group of partners trying to figure out what works best for our community." The next community meeting will be held on Saturday, March 4, from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the West Guilford Community Centre, and will be a hybrid in-person and Zoom meeting. For more information and the Zoom link, contact Bonnie Roe at 705 457 6579 or email [hhlcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:hhlcoalition@gmail.com).

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## Old news

**T**HE PROCESS of aging is guaranteed. It's the only constant in life.

Yet this society we live in does everything in its power to reverse that.

Anti-aging creams. Wrinkle removers. Boxed dyes to cover up well-earned wisps of grey.

Apparently, we aren't allowed to age as a society. It's not often discussed. So can we age as a community?

According to the most recent census taken of Minden Hills in 2021, there are 490 individuals in the township between the ages of 20 and 30, and 1040 between the ages of 70 and 80. Whether society likes it or not, aging is happening right here, right now.

Last week I attended the community discussion *Aging Together as Community*, hosted at the Fish Hatchery by the Haliburton Highlands Long Term Care Coalition and the ReThink Policy Change group.

The presentation garnered nearly 100 participants between in-person and Zoom, and offered insight and vibrant conversations about the inevitability of aging; what's needed, who needs support, and how do we do this together.

A worthy topic of conversation, and one that seemed to elicit sparks of curiosity amongst the room.

But here's the thing; it was a room full of people who were already comfortably into the aging process themselves. People who were curious about their next steps. Their futures. Their outcomes.

Here I was, hovering in my early-30s, and one of the youngest in the room. While this phenomenon happens more often than not in the county (I mean, according to the census, there are only 169 other 30-something women in Minden), it came as a shock to me that young adults weren't taking an interest in this.

We are at the age where questions are coming out about our own families, our

own futures, our own next steps.

Aging is happening to everyone, and the concept of aging goes beyond getting old. It impacts everyone in some way, because we are a community of caregivers. Aging isn't just changes in your appearance; it impacts your mobility, your mind, your surroundings. And, as these needs shift and change, the support required amplifies.

And while the challenges mount, so should the celebrations. Aging is an honour, a privilege, a gift. Yet the idea of "getting old" is taboo. A central theme of the *Aging Together as Community* conversation was to pinpoint that elephant in the room, and take it for a ride. Delineate the scare factor of aging, and face it head

on. Honour the art of growing old, because it is a journey worthy of respect, admiration, and tremendous value.

Aging is a process that needs to happen together. We can't just pass into the next bracket on the census and start to care about it. We have to care about it right now. We have to care about how

we are treating our bodies so that they can age comfortably. We have to care about how our decisions impact the generations after us. We have to care about how we can help the generations who blazed trails before us. Aging is a community effort. It's not a singular, taboo anomaly that we can disregard. In this community, it's all around us.

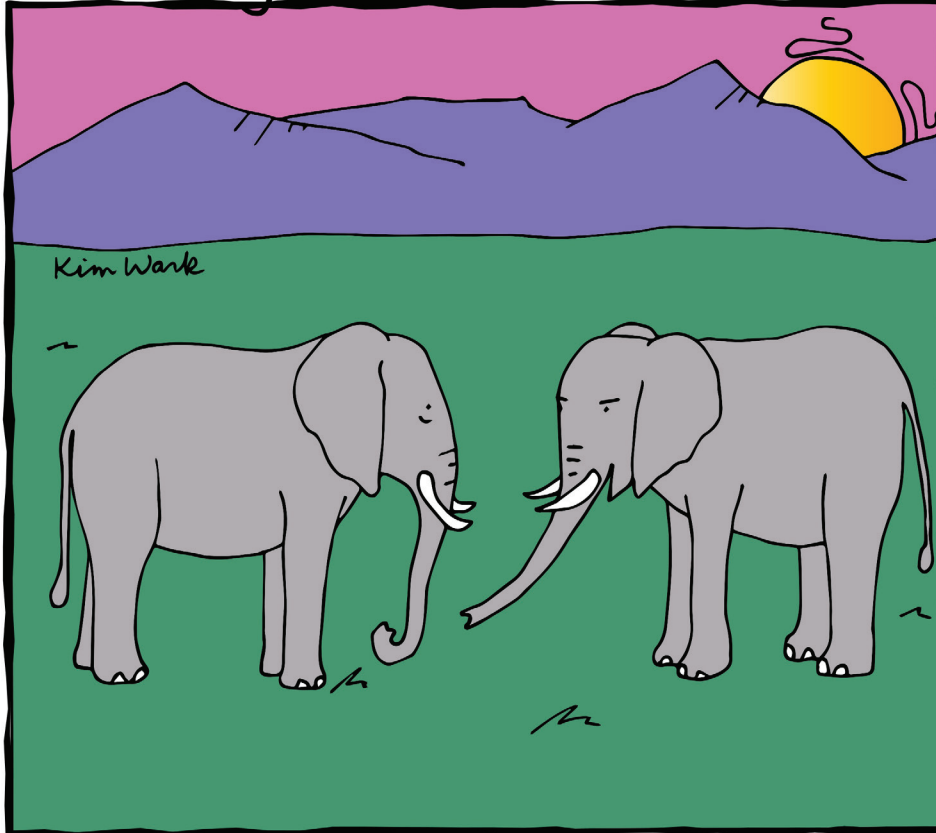
And it's the folks in the older demographics who are leading the way right now. They are the volunteers, the dreamers, the facilitators of service clubs, the keepers of knowledge. And when they move on, who's going to fill those shoes? Who's going to keep our community afloat?

It's time for young adults to step up, get involved in the community, and start the conversation about aging today, so that we can have a tomorrow where we all thrive together.



**EMILY STONEHOUSE**  
Editor

## Kwarky



"No, I don't believe you forgot Valentine's Day."

## The great ski divide

**A**S OUTDOORS pursuits go, cross-country skiing can be exceedingly useful to the serious wilderness enthusiast. Just donning these skis can make even the most ordinary outdoorsman or outdoors woman look like a highly dignified and competent winter traveller – provided, of course, you do it in winter.

Over the right terrain, cross-country skis often provide a quicker and more effortless means of transportation than snowshoeing does. Moreover, a good cross-country skier can cover a lot of ground in a relatively short amount of time – which is especially great if you have just skied over a hibernating bear. The best part is, should you decide to carry a rifle along, people will just think you are practicing for a biathlon. (Again, but only if you do this in winter.)

But while cross-country skiing is wonderful in theory, your skis can sometimes develop a life of their own. And, as with all inanimate objects, this is rarely a good thing.

In fact, sometimes, out of sheer boredom or perhaps even maliciousness, that innocent looking pair of glorified planks can quickly turn into your worst enemy.

Like all wayward beings, environmental factors are often to blame. After all, they are not born bad.

In fact, cross-country skis rarely cause too much harm when you use them on groomed trails over level ground, which is their natural environment. If you are cross-country skiing near ground that is the least bit unlevel, however, your skis can, and often will, quickly decide that it would be far more exciting to do a little downhill ski

role-playing. And they will generally do this without your consent.

One moment you will be trudging along at three miles an hour through the hardwoods. The next you are creating a sonic boom – or at least that's what you hope that noise was.

It would be great if it ended there – or even in a nearby snowbank.

But, of course, that is never the case.

Should there be several trees or rocks on that slope, your skis will then, hopefully, decide that they are, at that moment, downhill slalom skis. Believe me, you want this.

What you don't want is for the slope you are on to end abruptly, high over a valley. Because that is when those same skis will decide they would like to have a ski-jumping experience they can tell their grandkids about. In my experience, those are the worst kind of skis.

Well, maybe not.

Actually, the worst kind of skis are the ones that are not getting along. Because those

are the kind of skis that decide they need a little time apart – which would be fine, if you were not wearing them at the time.

These are the kind of skis that I also fear most, because though they might get over a split quickly, it will probably take you a whole lot longer, especially if one ski decides to follow the left fork in the trail and the other decides to follow the right one.

These are the kind of things an outdoors enthusiast needs to be aware of before deciding to place their fate in a pair of cross-country skis. Because while they do a good job in getting you from point A to point B, if you are not paying attention to your surroundings, things can rapidly go downhill from there.



**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35



## IN OTHER WORDS

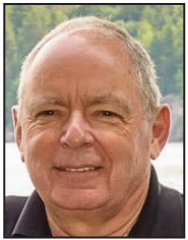
Columns and Letters to the Editor

# Bye bye American Pie

IT'S FEBRUARY, and as the singer-songwriter Don McLean wrote in his 1971 smash hit *American Pie*: February makes you shiver. It isn't February cold that makes McLean shiver. For him, February is the month in which "the music died."

McLean wrote *American Pie* as a tribute to rock and roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper (J. P. Richardson Jr.) who died in a plane crash on Feb. 3, 1959.

*American Pie* ('American as apple pie') has been described as one of the most successful and debated songs of the 20th century. Its nostalgic, ambiguous lyrics tell not just of the plane crash as the death of early rock and roll, but American society nosediving toward its own crash.



**JIM POLING SR.**  
From *Shaman's Rock*

It is a masterpiece lamenting the loss of innocence and idyllic life to a darkening mood changing America.

The lyrics are prophetic. Although written more than 50 years ago, they can be applied to today's United States, a country staggering under the weight of gun violence, international tensions and destructive climate change.

Listen to the song's chorus:

*So bye-bye, Miss American Pie*

*Drove my Chevy to the levee*

*But the levee was dry*

When he wrote those words McLean is said to have been referring to The Levy, a hometown bar where he went to get a drink but missed last call. Therefore, The Levy was dry.

It's easy to relate those lyrics to a dry levee today when we see global warming turning the Colorado River system, which provides water to 40 million people, into a trickle.

The song's lyrics can be applied to other dangers facing today's world.

Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, Jack Flash sat on a candlestick refers to U.S. President John Kennedy facing the threat of nuclear war during the 1960 Cuban missile crisis. Substitute Joe Biden for Jack Kennedy and Cuba's Fidel Castro with Russia's Vlad Putin and his threats or nuclear war over U.S. interference in Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Or, how about the lyrics in one of the song's last stanzas - And in the streets, the children screamed ...

They have reason to scream in the streets today. Already this year American gun violence has killed 169 children ages zero to 17 and wounded 400.

Total gun deaths since New Year's Day are approaching 4,500. Mass shootings since Jan. 1 now total 60 - nearly two a day.

And, of course, the lyrics "A generation lost in space" are easily related to today's American drug crisis. More than 1,500 people a week die from opioid-related overdoses while millions more are suffering with opioid addiction.

American overdose deaths have been rising since the 1990s with tracking agencies reporting more than one million drug deaths since 2000.

Versions of *American Pie* have been sung tens of thousands of times by performers in the past 64 years. Madonna released a version of it in 2000.

A new version, recorded recently in Ukraine promises to touch the hearts of millions of people disgusted by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its deliberate killing of civilians.

It is called *Ukrainian Pie* and is a tribute to the courage and fighting spirit of the Ukrainian people, plus a tribute to what the recording company calls the magical music and lyrics of "the greatest American popular song of all time."

The new version was composed by American lawyer-lyricist Hal Pollock and is sung by Ukrainian Alex Kozar. It was recorded in Kyiv, presumably when Russian bombs were not exploding.

Here's a taste of the lyrics:

*If the Ruskies think they stand a chance  
They better wear their big boy pants  
No squatting for a Hopak dance  
When we make 'em eat Ukrainian pie*

*Hey Zelensky  
Fly high Ukrainian guy  
Let them eat their borscht  
With our Ukrainian pie  
While Putin drinks his vodka  
And his generals die  
Tell the Ruskie soldiers bye-bye  
Make 'em eat Ukrainian pie*

A video of *Ukrainian Pie* is making the rounds on social media, notably You Tube. It also is being sold, with the profits to be distributed by the Ukrainian government for humanitarian causes in Ukraine.

# OPP raises awareness of scams

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) are launching a fraud prevention campaign, Feb. 6 to 10, 2023, to raise awareness about the significant increase in emergency-grandparent scams targeting Canadian seniors.

In 2022, the CAFC received fraud reports totalling a staggering \$530 million in victim losses. This was nearly a 40 per cent increase from the 2021 unprecedented \$380 million in losses.

Fraudsters target anyone and everyone, particularly the vulnerable and seniors. In 2022, more than \$9.2 million was reported lost to emergency scams, according to the CAFC. This was a drastic increase from \$2.4 million in 2021.

Ontario was the province impacted most with over \$5.4 million in reported losses.

It is estimated that only five to 10 per cent of victims report scams and fraud to the CAFC or law enforcement.

Emergency scams, including variations called "grandparent scams," use urgency and the manipulation of emotions to extort money from victims. In these scams, fraudsters cold call seniors, on landline phones, claiming to be a grandchild, family member, law enforcement officer or lawyer calling on behalf of their loved one. They'll say that the person's loved one was involved in an emergency situation, such as a collision, charged by law enforcement, legal peril, being sick or injured, etc. They demand the senior provide

payment immediately for supposed bail, legal fees, fines or other amounts "owed" to stop the family member from going to jail or to get them released from custody. This is a scam.

The fraudsters isolate the victims by informing them that there is a court-imposed gag order, and they're forbidden from discussing the matter. The victims are directed to attend their financial institution to withdraw the requested amount in cash. The fraudsters will then send someone to pick it up from the victim's home or have the victim send the money via courier services. There have also been reports of victims paying with cryptocurrency.

## Take action

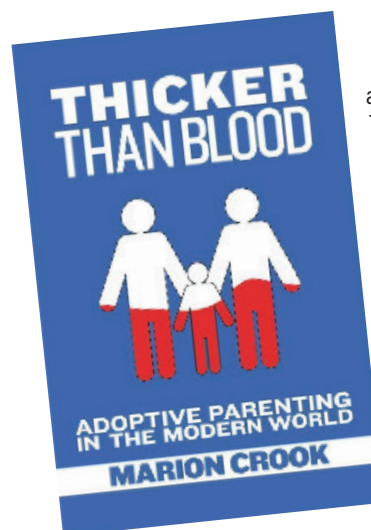
Join the RCMP, CAFC and OPP in raising awareness from February 6-10, 2023. The partners will be posting social media tips, bulletins, and various other resources.

If you fall victim to a fraud or know someone who has, contact your local police service to report the crime and also report it to the CAFC at 1-888-495-8501 or online on the Fraud Reporting System (FRS), even if a financial loss did not occur.

If you know a senior or have an elderly family member, please reach out to them and have a conversation on what to do if they get a phone call like this and consider coming up with a code word.

Submitted

## HCPL's Book of the Week



Marion Crook offers up a thoughtfully researched and forthright look at adoption in *Thicker Than Blood*. The book provides gentle and practical information for adoptive parents (or prospective ones), as well as placing adoption in its historical context and detailing its troubled past, as well as the challenges and rewards that come with creating adoptive families. Herself a parent of two adopted children, Crook brings her experience as a parent, public health nurse, university lecturer, and researcher to this topic and demystifies the process of adoption with compassion.

*Thicker Than Blood* by Marion Crook is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to  
[emily@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:emily@haliburtonpress.com)



# Happy to be home

**A**S A CHILD, my family and I would drive up highway 117 late on a Friday night, headed to my Grandma's house in Dorset, ON. Here we would stay for the weekend, at her homestead that her husband - the late Marvin MacLennan - built back in the 1930's. When Highway 117 would end, we would go straight across Hwy 35 onto MacLennan Drive. I would think to myself excitedly, "we're here!"

On this road, the MacLennan Clan would gather: my aunts, uncles and cousins. I can picture my Grandma's driveway like a photograph in my mind. I can hear the snow crunch on the tires in the winter as we slowly made our way down the drive. I can see the headlights bouncing off the snowy trees, casting a brief glimpse of the still, quiet, forest that brought feelings of both fear and wonder.

Then, Jennie MacLennan's house would

come into view, with warm light beaming out the windows, the chimney billowing smoke, and my Grandma standing in the window welcoming us. This was my home.

Minden...I can clearly remember a very arrogant 15-year-old me, stating to my family, "I will never live here when I'm older, there's not enough to do!" Yet, both my family cottage and extended family constantly brought me back to this place.

My summers were spent working at the Minden Foodland, and in my spare time, you would find me at sunrise, rowing my single shell across Gull Lake. When I went away to university, my family decided to permanently relocate to the cottage. I found myself homesick for Minden while I was away at school. I watched my younger sisters grow up and flourish in this community, first at Archie Stouffer and later Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. This is when



**KASSIE BRADLEY**  
*Wellness Corner with Kassie*

shell across Gull Lake. When I went away to university, my family decided to permanently relocate to the cottage. I found myself homesick for Minden while I was away at school. I watched my younger sisters grow up and flourish in this community, first at Archie Stouffer and later Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. This is when

I truly saw what Haliburton County had to offer.

After I completed Chiropractic College in Toronto in 2016, a job called to me from the heart of Haliburton. I can still recall leaving my Toronto apartment for the last time, wondering if I had made the right decision. As I drove farther and farther north, I started to see the familiar landscape that made my heart feel at ease.

The white pine trees darkened against the twilight sky, the large rock faces encompassing the highway, and the lakes, quiet and serene; a beauty that a younger me took for granted. I rolled down my window and listened to the night sounds, and felt the same wonder and joy I did as a child. I excitedly welcomed a new chapter in my life, and knew this was where I was supposed to be.

My name is Kassie Bradley, and I am thrilled to be a contributing writer with the Minden Times. Some of you may know me as Dr. Kassie Wright the Chiropractor. With my husband Dr. Jason Bradley, I own Haliburton County Chiropractic and

Rehabilitation here in Minden, ON.

All too frequently, I meet individuals who are suffering from ongoing pain and are left unsure of where to seek help. This column is a way for me to give back to a community that has welcomed and supported my family and business. My intention is to provide information regarding common injuries I see in my clinic and simple tips and tricks to help you feel better.

I want to shed light on activities and programs being offered locally that will allow our community to stay active. And lastly, I want to help bridge the gap by answering any questions you may have, and truly find out what your needs are in this community so I can better help it grow and thrive.

Thank you for reading. I'm happy to be home.

*Kassie Bradley is a chiropractor, mother, and a proud Mindenite. She will be contributing regular articles to help people manage their aches and pains from home, and to answer questions about how to make your body happy and healthy.*

## What are your plans for Family Day 2023?

Since Family Day is still a fairly new holiday in Ontario, many let it fall off the radar. Starting in 2008, Family Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February, and is a statutory holiday. It was designed as an opportunity for people to spend quality time with their families; a concept that is often lost in the hustle and bustle of the

modern world.

While February can be an unpredictable month to make plans, the *Times* reached out to the Township of Minden Hills to see what they had planned for the chilly long weekend.

Tanya Budgens, the manager of parks, recreation, and facilities shared that she is "pleased to offer a variety of drop-in skating

and gym programs for families this Family Day." She noted that all events require adult supervision, and that indoor shoes are mandatory for the gymnasium programs.

The following are scheduled for Feb. 20:

### Skating:

- Parent & Tot: 8 to 8:50 a.m.
- Jr. Shinny (7 to 9 years): 9-9:50 a.m.
- Public Skating: 10 to 10:50 a.m.
- 6 and Under Stick n' Puck: 11 to 11:30 am

### Gymnasium:

- Parent & Child Floor Hockey (4 to 6 years): 9 to 10 a.m.
- Parent & Child Basketball (10 to 14 years): 10 to 11 a.m.

For more information and to get up to date program times, visit [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca) or follow them on Facebook.



## Home Games S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

[WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA](http://WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA)

**Saturday, Feb. 11 @ 4:00 p.m.**  
**vs Stouffville Spirit**

**Sunday, Feb 12 @ 3:00 pm**  
**vs Collingwood Blues**

**Monday, Feb 20 @ 1:00 p.m.**  
**vs Lindsay Muskies**

*For more information please visit our website*



There's something for everyone over the Family Day weekend at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden, including scheduled times for skaters of all ages, shinny, and basketball. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



# Recruitment effort makes strides at Haliburton health facilities: CEO

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Efforts continue to fill vacant staff positions at Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Carolyn Plummer, the president and CEO at the health service provider, informed its board of directors in her January report that dire staffing situations continue at many health care organizations throughout Ontario.

"There have been no real changes in the situation since the last update," she said. "HHHS continues to work on recruitment and retention of health care workers and its current staff."

The organization advertised vacancies in local newspapers last fall, she said. And there's been some promising leads toward attracting new professionals to the region.

Plummer said she hopes to re-start the CEO Coffee Talk initiative. It was popular before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown in

early 2020.

"This initiative provides staff with an informal opportunity to connect with the CEO, ask questions, and bring suggestions forward," she said. "I am looking forward to connecting with staff again through this venue and, in particular, I would like to further explore some of the feedback we received through the recruitment and retention survey."

In her report, Plummer said there are signs the triple threat of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza, and COVID-19 has peaked, but hospitals are still struggling.

The new variant of COVID-19 dubbed XBB.1.5 has been identified and is reportedly one of the most easily transmitted variants. Even if symptoms may not be as severe, high transmission of the virus has caused problems for the healthcare system and hospital capacity.

"HHHS will continue to maintain its COVID-19 precautions and do what it can to be prepared to manage higher patient

volumes," she said and added that two COVID-19 outbreaks at HHHS have recently ended.

The outbreak in the in-patient department, which began on Dec. 18, 2022 and involved nine patients, was declared over on Jan. 3.

The outbreak on the lower level of Hyland Crest Long-Term Care started Dec. 16, 2022 and culminated Jan. 10. It entailed 17 cases among residents and three staff members were infected.

"Managing an outbreak, particularly while dealing with surges in patients and the need to admit patients to the Emergency Department, takes a significant toll on the team, patients, and residents," Plummer said.

"I would like to express my deepest gratitude for all the efforts of our team in bringing these outbreaks to a close, as well as for the cooperation and understanding of patients, residents, and their families."

There have been some staffing changes at the region's two long-term care facilities. Tina Amodeo is the permanent assistant director of care at Highland Wood LTC. Recruitment continues for a director of care/administrator for the home.

At Hyland Crest LTC, Tracy Salvatori has accepted the assistant director of care position.

Plummer thanked Dr. Tina Stephenson for her incredible work at Highland Wood LTC over the past 22 years. Stephenson will retire as the medical director of the home on April 1.

Dr. Michael Armstrong will take over as the interim medical director at Highland Wood while a permanent replacement is recruited. Armstrong has been working with HHHS for more than 20 years and is also the medical director for Hyland Crest LTC.



## Keep calm and read a book

Rozanne Hynard and Sue Sisson stand in front of boxes of book donations that were donated to Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library. On the first and third Friday of every month, the Book Nook is open at the Minden Branch from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and all books are available for purchase by donation. Funds raised from the books are used for branch furnishings, children's programs, community workshops, and more. The Friends are currently seeking more volunteers to assist with the Book Nook and additional fundraising initiatives. For more information, visit [www.haliburtonlibrary.ca](http://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca). /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

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 4:15 and 7:15 pm Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.  
**March 9: Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On**  
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# Coliving group sets up on Little Hawk Lake

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A band of newcomers to Haliburton County has found a way to make a luxury resort and marina soften some of the financial pressure in these difficult economic times.

Communal living isn't really a new concept. Coliving is much like that, but with a little privacy to boot.

According to the website, Oakview Coliving promotes personal and environmental health, affordability and sustainability, while offering a chance to live in community. It's expected to open in June.

It's at the site for the former Oakview Lodge and Marina, which began in 1943 on Little Hawk Lake in Algonquin Highlands.

Large rooms are outfitted with ensuite bathrooms and there's 4,000 square feet of common space. A central room has a large wood fire place. There's another brace of multi-purpose rooms, one of which is being equipped to be an exercise room.

"It really is a very large, roomy, comfortable complex that happens to have some private spaces within it," said Doug Tindal, one of the original seven people who started the venture.

Food is shared and meals are prepared and eaten together. With the Bank of Canada pushing homeowner mortgages closer to unaffordability and inflation upwards of eight per cent at its peak, the more wallets supporting a cause eases some of the pressure.

Some of the group have been working at the coliving since 2016 when they first tried to make a go of it in Toronto, but it couldn't be done.

"The costs were too steep," Tindal said.

Barriers like zoning bylaws were bothersome and too difficult to get around.

"We couldn't gather a large enough group with enough financial commitment to make it happen," he said.

So they gave up on their idea.

"It was a good try, but we're not going to be the ones to make this happen," Tindal said of the group's resigning to defeat. But then a trip to Haliburton County and a chance meeting with another couple resurrected the idea.

Tindal and his wife have a son and daughter-in-law who



Grethe Jensen, Doug and Mardi Tindal, Ted Addie, Hillary Arnold, Greg Hebert, and Anna Schmiegielo on Zoom are optimistic about their coliving arrangement, and are welcoming others to explore this initiative as well. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

live in Haliburton County. They've recently taken to spending a lot of time out of the city, Tindal said.

"We spent some time in Haliburton County and we very quickly came to love it," he said. So they started the search for a property to buy.

The search brought them to another couple interested in the idea. After a conversation that felt much like speaking with old friends, the core group of seven people that would start Oakview came together.

Those seven have committed to buying four of seven shares in the coliving property.

"That was enough, we determined, for us to go forward," Tindal said. "We still have three shares available and we're still looking for others who might want to be part of it, but we're going ahead regardless and creating Oakview Coliving."

For more information, visit [www.oakviewcoliving.com](http://www.oakviewcoliving.com).

# Tax

## season is just around the corner!



**Renovations** made in 2022 that made your personal residence safer and more accessible could be eligible for the **Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit**.

- Learn more: [Ontario.ca/SeniorsHomeSafety](https://Ontario.ca/SeniorsHomeSafety)
- Examples: handrails and wheelchair ramps

**Medical expenses** that support aging at home made in 2022 could be eligible for the **Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit**.

- Learn more: [Ontario.ca/page/Ontario-seniors-care-home-tax-credit](https://Ontario.ca/page/Ontario-seniors-care-home-tax-credit)
- Examples: hearing aids and hospital beds

To support seniors, the Ontario government is doubling the **Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS)** payment for all recipients for 12 months beginning January 2023.

Starting January 2023 until December 2023, the doubled payment will be automatically issued as part of your regular monthly **GAINS** payments.

Learn more at:

[Ontario.ca/page/guaranteed-annual-income-system-payments-seniors](https://Ontario.ca/page/guaranteed-annual-income-system-payments-seniors)



**Laurie Scott**  
MPP  
Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock

[laurie.scottco@pc.ola.org](mailto:laurie.scottco@pc.ola.org) • 705-324-6654 • [lauriescottmpp.com](http://lauriescottmpp.com)



Drivers, start your engines

Ashley Best in car number 66 speeds ahead for one of the final laps of her race at the Minden Ice Racing track during a qualifying race on Saturday, Feb. 4. Hosted by the Minden Kin Club at the Minden Fairgrounds, Feb. 4 and 5 was the first weekend for the races in 2023. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Cars race close together during their first round of a qualifying race.



The next round of racers line up for their qualifying race.



Gerrit Kooistra in car number 32 and Dustin Brown in car number 167 battle for a spot on the Minden Ice Racing track during a qualifying race on Saturday, Feb. 4.



Doug Forbes drifts around the corner, sending snow flying.



# Chaga 101 - so mushroom to learn

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

If you go down to the woods today, you're in for a big surprise! While it may look like a regular brown lump on a tree, the local forests are rampant with chaga this time of year. "With these past couple cold snaps, this is the best time for people to start really learning about chaga," said foraging and outdoors educator Stephan Lukacic.

While Lukacic shared that you can really spot chaga any time of year, the winter months are the best for harvesting, based on the quality of the mushroom. "This is the best time of year, because the trees and fungus are both dormant," he said, "plus, when it rains, you lose a lot of the benefits of chaga, as the benefits are water-soluble."

Lukacic lights up when he shares the knowledge he has garnered over the years. He established an interest in the topic a few years ago, but noted that there were not any hyper-focused workshops on chaga. Through a wealth of self-discovery and an abundance of research, he now teaches these courses right here in the Haliburton Highlands. "The best part is that there's always more to learn," he chuckled.

While Lukacic is adamant about getting the word out there about chaga, including a very active social media presence and contributions to *Outdoor Canada* magazine, his passion lies in teaching others about



Stephan Lukacic (@stevie\_funfur on Instagram) is leading regular chaga courses based out of the Haliburton Highlands Museum for the duration of the winter months. /Photo submitted

chaga. "I just love teaching," he said, "it's my favourite part of all of this."

Chaga is a unique mushroom that grows throughout the region, and can often be

spotted on tree trunks, with a particular liking to birch trees. When consumed properly, it has been known to stimulate the immune system, and carry an abundance of antioxidants. While the medical background is not in-depth at this time, it has been given to patients with heart disease and cancer; garnering positive impacts.

In the program, Lukacic strives to dig

into the nitty-gritty of chaga medicinal uses, health benefits, best practices for harvesting, the preparation of teas, and more. "Sustainability is number one," Lukacic said, "I really want to educate people on ethical and sustainable practices."

The course is offered through Deep Roots Adventure, and hosted at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. "We are so lucky to add Chaga 101 to our roster of programs offered," said Corina Mansfield, owner and operator of Deep Roots, "there is so much to learn, and having it at the museum is great for everyone."

Lukacic agreed that the museum is a fantastic hub for community events. "It's super cozy, and fun to visit," he said. He noted that due to the options to work indoors or outdoors, the pace of the program can be dictated by the preferences of the group. "Sometimes we go outside to check out chaga on the trees, other times, the group prefers to stay in and sip on a hot cup of chaga tea while we go through the course," he said. "It's totally up to whatever they want to do."

Chaga 101 (and then some) is running on alternating Sundays until the end of March. To book your session, visit [www.deeproots.ca](http://www.deeproots.ca). To learn more about chaga and the ins and outs of the course, you can follow Lukacic on social media @stevie\_funfur.

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2						6		
		9		4				2
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	4	3						
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		2						

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 15

## Land Trust to offer Discovery Days thanks to grant

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is pleased to announce that Land Trust Discovery Days will be offered in 2023 thanks to a grant of \$7095 from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and our HHLT volunteer committee.

Land Trust Discovery Days is a series of educational events held through the year at various locations in Haliburton County. We hope to educate people of all ages, particularly our youth, about the species, land and water that are in need of protection and conservation. Our events are family friendly and most are offered by donation.

Our first event of 2023 is a live Speaking of Wildlife presentation to be held at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery on Saturday, Mar. 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wildlife experts from Speaking of Wildlife and their animal

ambassadors will offer fun facts through this interactive presentation. Tickets must be purchased in advance of this at [www.haliburton-landtrust.ca](http://www.haliburton-landtrust.ca) or by calling our office at 706-457-3700. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children, and \$35 for a family.

Future programs include the Don Smith Memorial Bird Walk, Plein Air Painting, a Geology Walk and more. All registration and event information will be posted on our website as events are confirmed.

Along with these public events, the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation grant will also fund a project to create a virtual tour of our trails. More information to follow soon.

Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

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A Kif-Kif sister has a little fun with a leaf blower.



### Double the trouble, double the fun!

The Kif-Kif Sisters delighted a large crowd at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton on Saturday as part of Razzamataz theatre for wonder. Identical twins Josette and Francoise Lepin, from Quebec, put smiles on childrens' faces with their unique performance which saw bunnies take flight, express French fries and a balloon dance like no other. /ADAM FRISK Special to the *Times*



Josette and Francoise Lepin dance during their performance on Saturday.



The sisters perform a unique dance involving over-sized pink balloons.

**PRHC**  
Peterborough Regional  
Health Centre

## Would you like to contribute to shaping healthcare delivery in our community and region?

**Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) is seeking individuals to become members of the Board of Directors who:** (a) reside in one of the four (4) counties of Peterborough, Northumberland, Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes; (b) reflect the diversity of our changing community; and (c) can bring volunteer Board experience and business/professional skills to our governance processes. The Board is seeking strong contributors with an interest in future leadership positions.

### The Board

- Governs the affairs of PRHC in line with best practices in the sector
- Advances PRHC's vision, mission and values
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- Is committed to continuously building a truly inclusive, and safe organization at every level
- Supports the implementation of the 2024-2027 Strategic plan and ensures that all decisions are made in accordance with the Plan
- Reviews and approves PRHC's Annual Operating Plan
- Provides oversight to quality of care
- Fosters regional relationships needed for seamless care

**All applications are welcome**, in particular from persons with a background in clinical (professional staff and allied health included), human resources, patient/family experience, construction/facility management, and quality of care. Before applying, please visit our website at [www.prhc.on.ca](http://www.prhc.on.ca) and click on **About PRHC/Board of Directors** for more detail.

### How to Apply:

Submit an application along with a resume by February 17, 2023 to the Chair, Nominating Sub-Committee, c/o Margaret Clark, Senior Executive Assistant, Administration, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, One Hospital Drive, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7C6, or email [mclark@prhc.on.ca](mailto:mclark@prhc.on.ca)



# Spotlight on André Lapine exhibit at the AJG

by **JERELYN CRADEN**  
Special to the Times

If you live in Minden, you have more than likely heard the name, André Lapine. You may have seen his paintings at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (AJG) or the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. You may be an admirer of his work and know his inspiring story. Then again, perhaps it's time for an introduction. After all, it is rare that a painter of Lapine's renown would have over 100 of his paintings become the permanent collection of a small public gallery in a small town like Minden. And, right now, you have the opportunity to see 35 specially selected paintings from the collection until the end of March.

Shannon Kelly, Manager of Cultural Resources for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, said, "The paintings in the Kirkwood Room reflect his work created in autumn. In galleries one and two are images of beautiful local subjects. And those in gallery four pay homage to his famous horses, for which he is highly revered."

## Now, introducing André Lapine ...

Born in Latvia in 1866, Lapine's innate talent and passion for painting earned him an early invitation to tour Europe's foremost galleries to further his studies. Bitten by the bug to learn, see, and do, he continued to paint and travel through Europe frequenting as many galleries as possible to see first-hand the artistry of the great masters and impressionists of the day.

He was an insatiable student. Becoming a great painter meant everything to him. Especially earning a living as an artist. But, after studying at the Royal Academy of Amsterdam, where he became a member of the St. Lucas Art Society, and marrying at the age of 31, reality hit: How would he be able to take care of his wife, Collumbierna Geertruida Brill?

Opportunity knocked. Lapine and his wife immigrated to Manitoba, upon accepting the Canadian government's offer of land to farm. But, as American poet, Gertrude Stein, wrote: A rose is a rose is a rose ... so was being an artist for André Lapine.

"He didn't last long as a farmer," Jim Blake, Curator at the Haliburton Sculpture Forest said. "Less than two years and he ended up in Toronto. And, like so many artists in Canada, he worked for a graphic arts firm that did all the work for Simpson's and Eaton's. Most of the Group of Seven worked for Grip, a competing design firm that was home to many of Canada's premier designers and painters during the first half of the 20th century."

An exceptional artist, Lapine had the ability to capture an image with simple, strong strokes, indicating a skilled artist who had mastered the basic techniques of drawing. His attention to detail and perfection established him as the best illustrator of horses in North America. Among his paintings of horses at the current AJG exhibit are: *Collecting the sap* and *Horses pulling sled*.

His work was frequently seen on the covers of the *Toronto Star Weekly* and in colour sections within the publication. Many of his paintings were selected and purchased by the National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Life was but a dream. He owned a custom-built stately home on Old Mill Road and had a studio in downtown Toronto. He was earning a fine living as an artist. His home life was happy. He was admired by his peers for both his work and his quiet charm. He became a member of the Ontario Society of Artists



Above, Lapine's style was simplified brush strokes, yet they stood out due to the great detail he included. At one point, he was known as the greatest horse illustrator in North America, due to his astute eye for detail. This image is titled *Grey Day on South Lake in Minden*. /Photo submitted

Right, André Lapine lived from 1866 until 1952, and was an avid painter in the Minden area. The Minden Hills Cultural Centre's Agnes Jamieson Gallery houses the largest collection of Lapine paintings in the world.



and the Graphic Arts Club, the Toronto Arts and Letters Club and a founding member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour. Lapine was also elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

Then tragedy struck.

One day as he was crossing the street, Lapine was hit by a car. His injuries were severe and it appeared unlikely that he would survive. His medical bills were mounting and the situation was grim. This was 35 years before OHIP.

Rallying to his aid, a number of well-known artists in the Canadian and Ontario art scene auctioned their art to raise money for his medical bills. Among them: F.S. Challenor, A.Y. Jackson, Franz Johnston, Arthur Lismer and Lawren Harris. Over 50 artists' paintings were contributed and over \$7,000 was raised – more than enough to pay for the medical bills.

Then, when Lapine's wife was ailing and he was recovering from his injuries, they left Toronto for the natural beauty and tranquility of Minden where they stayed at Billy Hamilton's farm on South Lake. There, among many others, he painted, *Grey day South Lake, Minden*.

An admirer of this painting, Blake said upon seeing it at the current AJG exhibit, "It is so interesting in terms of the design. It has this incredible grey palette and looks very much like a David Milne painting or Clarence Daniel who were his contemporaries."

Blake recalled a story told to him by inter-

national Canadian sculptor George Pratt, who grew up on a farm in Minden. "When he was a four-year-old kid," Blake said, "Pratt was walking down the laneway and saw this man standing at the side of the road in front of an easel creating a painting. He was astounded that somebody could actually start with a blank canvas and create a scene. That's when Pratt told me, 'That is what inspired me.' Of course, that person was André Lapine."

After Lapine's wife died, Jack Welch, Reeve of Minden for many years and hobby painter, befriended him and offered Lapine room and board in exchange for paintings. Welch's close friend, local doctor, Agnes Jamieson (the first woman coroner in Ontario), also a hobby painter, became an ardent fan of Lapine's work. The three kindred

spirits enjoyed a friendship that lasted until Lapine's final days.

Over the years, Welch had accumulated over 45 paintings which he bequeathed to the municipal government on the condition that the town keep them in a suitable location.

Dr. Jamieson dedicated herself to ensuring that the Lapine collection remain in Minden and the community would have a public gallery where the paintings would be stored and displayed.

Buried beside his beloved, Collumbierna, in the Minden cemetery, André Lapine's legacy lives on.

A true tale, one with a happy ending – the enrichment of arts and culture with a spotlight on the André Lapine exhibit currently on view right here in Minden.





### Walking in a winner wonderland

The Huskies celebrate a goal against the Caledon Admirals during a busy game on Feb. 4 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. /TIM YANO special to the Times



Fist bumps to celebrate a 10-4 win for The Huskies over the Caledon Admirals.



The Huskies celebrate after a 10-4 win on Sat., Feb. 4 in Minden.

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

2	7	1	9	8	5	6	3	4
8	5	9	3	4	6	1	7	2
4	3	6	1	2	7	9	5	8
1	8	5	7	9	4	2	6	3
6	4	3	2	1	8	7	9	5
9	2	7	6	5	3	8	4	1
5	9	4	8	6	1	3	2	7
3	6	8	5	7	2	4	1	9
7	1	2	4	3	9	5	8	6



Huskies forward Leo Serlin tips the puck towards the net on Feb. 4 during a home game for the Huskies. The Huskies scored 8 goals against the visiting Caledon Admirals during the first period of play.

# Canoe Fm Radio BINGO

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Visit our website at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers) for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to [shume@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:shume@haliburtoncounty.ca) no later than February 20th, 2023, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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## 400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



**Camp Timberlane** is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16 and is looking to hire candidates to join our onsite Housekeeping / Laundry team and our Grounds Keeping and Maintenance. For more information about the camp, visit us at [www.Camptimberlane.ca](http://www.Camptimberlane.ca)

**Housekeeping/Laundry - Full Time, Temporary, Contract**  
Four positions available

Our Housekeeping and Laundry areas are managed with teams split between Housekeeping and Laundry.

**Responsibilities include:** cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp

facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

**Grounds Keeping/Maintenance - Full Time, Temporary, Contract**

Two positions available

Our Maintenance and Construction Team are managed with teams split between the Maintenance and Construction Team and Grounds Keeping.

**Responsibilities include:** keeping the grounds clean and clear of garbage and waste, grass cutting and leaf blowing, landscape maintenance, empty garbage receptacle, operation of front loader, painting, delivery wood for firepits. Sundry duties as assigned. Manual labour or construction experience will be an asset.

**Expected Start date: Spring 2023**

Candidates will be cross-trained and or assigned to areas based on existing skills and previous work experience.

Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment.

**Salary:** Housekeeping / Laundry or Grounds Keeping: \$17.50 - \$19.50 per hour based on experience.

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## 650 OBITUARIES

*In Loving Memory of*

**Brooks, Sylvia Mary**

*It is with great sadness that the family of Sylvia Mary Brooks (nee Harrison), announce her passing at Humber River Hospital in Toronto on January 22, 2023, at the age of 82.*

She was born on May 13, 1940, in Minden, Ont. to Stuart and Hilda.

She is lovingly remembered by her husband of six decades, James Gilbert (Gil) Brooks, her brother Larry and her sister Susan Kylie, sisters- and brothers-in-law Christina Schleifer (and her husband, Chuck), Murray Brooks, Diane Brooks and Gary Kylie, numerous nieces and nephews, and many friends. She was predeceased by brother-in-law Laurie Brooks and former sister-in-law, Sonya Proctor.

Sylvia was gregarious and outgoing, enthusiastic and passionate about all her pursuits. She was a theatre and opera enthusiast, an avid golfer, a voracious collector and a world traveller who loved to read. Sylvia had a wry sense of humour that was greatly treasured by those who loved her.

She spent much of the last years of her lifetime career as an educator working with teenage students, particularly those with special needs, at Drewry Secondary School in a diverse north Toronto neighbourhood that experienced most big-city challenges. Sylvia guided countless young people through difficult times with empathy and verve.

A celebration of life and interment will be held at a later date. Donations can be made to the Brantford or Minden Food Banks if you would like to honour Sylvia's memory.

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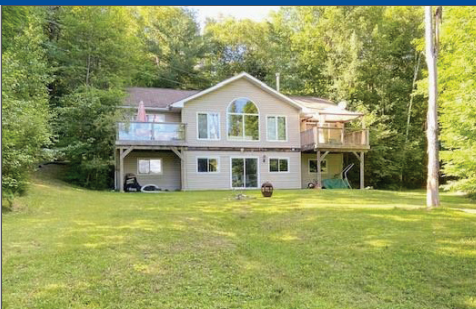


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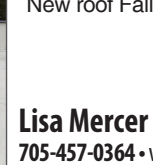


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## LOOK INSIDE



### Fur in fashion

Annual trappers workshop a chance for enthusiasts to test their skills in competition

See page 5



### Nordic competition

Local skiers hold their own as Haliburton plays host to Kawartha Nordic races on Tuesday

See page 14



### Slow down and live longer!

Snowmobiling accident prompts Carol Baldwin to speak out about the dangers of speeding

See page 13

### In Quotes

"The previous council had agreed to finance \$161,000 and we are asking for \$162,400. I don't think an additional \$1,400 is a lot over three years. I was stunned..."

**Georgina Parkes**



Darren Lum/TIMES

### Where the rubber meets the ice:

Long-time competitor Terry Dalton chases down the leaders in the Minden ice races on Saturday, Jan. 31. Dalton races every year, coming up each weekend, and has the Minden House B & B name on both sides of his car. The establishment's owner said Dalton chose to put the name on the car without any cost because he enjoys his stay at the B&B during the ice races.

## Gallery expansion on hold again

by IZABELA JAROSZYNSKI  
Times staff

A wave of disappointment and frustration rippled through the Minden Hills council chambers last week as council decided to decline the current tender for the expansion of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

In a five-two decision, council voted to say no to the \$434,000 bid to build the 2,000 square foot addition and postponed until July the decision to lend \$162,400 over three years to finance the project.

A joint agreement with the federal and provincial governments already has the township committed to giving \$52,000 to the project, but the gallery committee has asked the municipality for a loan to cover other costs. At previous meetings, council had agreed to lend the funds, but rising building costs have caused councillors to reconsider.

see COMMITTEE page 6

## Garbage limit cut to three bags a week

by IZABELA JAROSZYNSKI  
Times staff

Minden Hills council is calling on residents to be part of the landfill solution by reducing the amount of waste dumped at landfill sites.

As of June 1st, residents will be required to cut down on garbage disposal, council decided at a recent meeting.

In a unanimous decision, council passed a resolution to cut waste allowance from five bags a day to three bags a week.

"Five bags a day is a bit of a joke," Councillor Peter Oyler said. "People have to be more conscious of what they can recycle and reuse."

Reeve Ross Rigney agreed.

"We have been shaken up in the last 30 days," he said, referring to the recent Ministry of Environment report that revealed that the

township's landfills are in a critical state.

"We have to move ahead and get people to start understanding the importance of reducing waste," he added.

Council plans to begin an aggressive educational campaign to teach residents how to cut down on waste.

The campaign will likely include ads and an open letter in the press, as well as a separate flyer to be distributed with the interim tax bill.

Councillor Cheryl Murdoch insisted the campaign include background information about the history of landfill sites and the state of crisis they are currently experiencing.

"No one should come and say they didn't know," she said. "We are running out of time. We have to do something and we have to do it now."

The re-education campaign will extend to the long weekend in May, when council hopes

to catch both permanent and seasonal residents at landfill sites.

"It's clean-out weekend," Councillor Clayton Cameron said.

Deputy Reeve Jim McMahon raised the issue of enforcement, asking how council expected to ensure that residents were complying with the new bylaw.

Robert Romberg, the township's environmental and property operations manager, said that enforcement would be in the hands of landfill attendants and was confident that it would work in most cases.

"But even if we can only reduce waste by 50 per cent, it would be a tremendous step in the right direction," he added.

Cameron suggested using a tag system to enforce the bylaw; meaning each household would be issued a certain amount of tags.

see WINTER page 2

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